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OUR COUNTRY AND MEXICO.

A review of the latest events in the Mexican trouble would be unconvincing and worthless unless predicated on the fact that the situation is a special one. It does not contain the co-ordinated elements of which international dilemmas are usually composed.

The United States is neither aroused by anger toward the Mexicans as a nation nor is it hostile to them. At no time has this country felt more solicitous for the welfare of the Mexican people. At no time has it been more unselfishly ready to aid them. The situation is a special one because of the fact that a despot has usurped the reins of authority in Mexico City and has taken unto himself the symbols of government. He is repudiated no less by the members of a duly-organized and powerful revolutionary movement in his own country than by the constituted government of the United States.

The action taken by President Wilson and Congress is neither intended to be, nor is in fact necessarily preliminary to a declaration of war against Mexico as a nation. There is nothing in it which should be interpreted by the Mexicans as an affront to their flag or a menace to their country. The seizure and blockading of Mexican ports are measures adopted primarily for the purpose of sapping Huerta's strength as well as to serve a world-wide notice that the United States cannot be insulted with impunity. This course afforded the only available means of depriving Huerta of the sinews of war. His revenues will be cut off and munitions enroute to him will be confiscated.

Although the administration at Washington is not volunteering categorical reasons for the steps it is taking, it is left to the ready inference of reasoning men that the results hoped for include the complete humiliation of Huerta in the eyes of truly patriotic Mexicans. When they have proof that Huerta is nothing more than a weakling braggard, incompetent as a national leader because the Mexicans as a nation seem to enlist under his flag, and directly responsible for the troubles brought upon himself and unwillingly shared by others even outside of his supine following, they will unite in a demand for his political effacement.

The situation is a special one because this one man stands between Mexico and the United States, and in chastising him it is necessary to swing the lash over shoulders which it is not the intention to wound.

Now that a stage in the crisis has been reached, it cannot escape the attention of President Wilson's critics that this country is splendidly prepared to meet whatever contingencies may arise. The administration had the Atlantic fleet under steam even before the issue became acute. The policy of "watchful waiting," it seems, was set on a hair trigger. It contained all of fearlessness coupled with calmness, and preparedness tuned to execution that the prestige and welfare of a nation demands.

THE PHOENIX CONFERENCE.

Following is a "short" question which an Arizona contemporary suggests should be put to every man or woman who advocates a merger of the Republican and Progressive parties:

"On what basis?"

It is especially pertinent at this time when the Bull Moosers are assembled in Phoenix. The leaders in conference have ignored it, apparently. Although confronted with the fact that their party is moribund, they have elected to indulge in the starvation tactics popular with English militants who have been sentenced to prison.

Various answers relatively satisfactory would seem to suggest themselves to any man whether a Republican or a Progressive. It is axiomatic that a fight which cannot possibly succeed is not worth undertaking. The issues for which the Progressive party stands—those which are compatible with good government irrespective of party—do not differ sufficiently from those adopted by the Republican party to warrant the perpetuation of the Bull Moose movement.

There remain in the Progressive party in Arizona several able men whose return to the Republican fold would strengthen that fold. Whether these men would be able to prevail over misguided leaders who compose a numerical majority at the Phoenix conference, is the question? The ablest of the Bull Moose leaders could

wield undiminished power in the Republican councils. At present, their strength is going to waste. It is not to be expected that the old line party would stand for some of the radical proposals of the Bull Moosers. These radical proposals are what at the present time discredit the Progressive party and contribute to its progressing weakness.

The fly in the ointment is furnished by those Bull Moosers who are afflicted with the ills of fanaticism. They decline to return to the rehabilitated and orderly political home in which they were reared. They refuse to return, not because they can't do so without loss of honor or opportunity to aid their cause through a merger, but because they won't. The Republican party is in conciliatory mood. It would meet the Progressives more than half way.

Returning again to the question, "On what basis?" let the Bull Moosers show a disposition to inquire the terms instead of peremptorily rejecting such overtures as were made by Senator Lorenzo Hubbell.

DRINKING AND SHOOTING.

Alcohol as a beverage has been barred out of the United States navy. Following the recommendation of Surgeon-General Braisted, Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels has issued an executive order abolishing all alcoholic liquors from every ship and station of the navy. The order reads, "The use or introduction, for drinking purposes, of alcoholic liquors on board any naval vessels, or within any naval yard or station, is strictly prohibited, and commanding officers will be held directly responsible for the enforcement of this order." The significance and extent of the change which has taken place in popular views regarding alcohol, as indicated by this sweeping order of the secretary, can be appreciated only when one recalls the stories of naval experiences of past generations, when rum, brandy and whiskey formed a part of the regular official rations, when liquor of some kind was served, as a routine procedure, to officers and men before going into action, and when one of the chief characteristics of sailors, whether officers or seamen, was their ability to dispose of an amazing quantity of intoxicants. The development of scientific methods and the use of instruments of precision in warfare have made alcohol absolutely detrimental to the modern naval man. Sea-fights in the past were won by brute hardihood and physical endurance which could perhaps be stimulated, temporarily at least, by large doses of alcohol. The modern warship is a floating laboratory of delicate and accurate machines. The gun pointer who directs a 14-inch rifle on the modern man-of-war needs not only personal courage, but also absolute steadiness of nerve, clearness of vision and fine muscular co-ordination. All these things modern physiology has shown to be impaired by even small amounts of alcohol. The engineer who superintends the machinery at the heart of the modern battleship, the man at the wheel who directs its course and the captain or the executive officer on the bridge, as well as the most humble member of the crew, need at all times to be in a condition of maximum physical and mental efficiency. Intoxication in the naval officer today might easily be as disastrous as cowardice and treason. The American Medical Association thinks that Surgeon-General Braisted's recommendations and Secretary Daniels' order are simply in line with our growing knowledge. The nation needs on its battleships today the most capable, clear-headed, cool-brained and steady-handed men, and these men are not found among the habitual or occasional users of alcohol in any form. Entirely aside from moral or sentimental reasons, and considered simply as a scientific regulation in the interest of efficiency, this order will recommend itself to the vast majority of the American people.

LIGHT ON RAILROADS.

That there is distinct disappointment over the latest announcement by the Interstate Commerce Commission has been evident and some of the results of the delay in reaching a decision are clearly pointed out in an editorial in the Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin which we reproduce. The editorial is as follows:

"The announcement of the Interstate Commerce Commission that it will hear argument on the question of allowing the five per cent advance in railroad rates on April 27 is not very promising for a speedy decision on the main question, in view of the further announcement that the record will not be closed until replies have been filed to certain questions, and investigation 'in connection therewith' has been made, and 'hearings now in contemplation upon these last mentioned matters have been had.' There is no knowing how long all this will take and in the meantime the railroads will be very uneasy.

"The question to which replies must be filed were submitted by the Commission in circular letters of December 20, 1913, and February 26, 1914. The former contained 78 questions and sub-questions relating to the financial requirements of railroads, cost of materials and various statistics, necessitating a good deal of time and expense to prepare. The latter calls for information about the collection and delivery of freight for shippers, the transportation of containers, storage, furnishing or paying for wharfage or dockage, and refrigerating service. The purpose is to get at what the railroads do for shippers and consignees, apart from mere transportation on their own tracks, and how far and how much they are paid for it. It is understood that the railroads have been working up the facts and figures, but how long it will take and then how much time will be spent in hearings on these matters is altogether uncertain.

"The argument beginning April 27 will be on the question whether the present rates yield adequate

THE END OF THE WATCHFUL WAIT



STRAY BUT TIMELY

The annual parade of New York's "finest," otherwise the police parade, is always well worth seeing. This year the parade is to have several added attractions. In true circus style the street parade will be followed by the big show which will have nearly all the attractions usually seen under the big white tents with the exception of the managerie. The show will take place on the broad plaza in front of the Public Library. Here the city officials and thousands of citizens will gather to see athletes in wrestling matches and other forms of gymnastic exercises. The wrestlers and tumblers will be probationary men of the police department. They will show what they have learned in the School for Recruits. In addition to the physical tests the programme will include exhibitions method of hauling prisoners, and of line formations.

Brokers who seek other ways of making a living in hard times are not the only young men in New York whom the dancing craze has put on their feet, literally and figuratively. Students at some of the colleges and universities have found it the feminine desire to dance a more or less profitable means of earning money. Most women want to dance now days, and out of this has grown the demand for the paid escort, who recently has become a noticeable feature of social life. At a dance which takes place at the end of the week in an uptown hotel, the dancing men present are mainly the husbands or relatives of the members of the club. But these could not be dragged away from business for the mid-week dance, and as the women were determined to have partners they cast about for them. One suggested that college students might fill the bill. The experiment was tried and was found successful and not expensive. It is said these partners receive \$1 or \$2 each at the end of the dance.

Arrangements have been concluded for the meeting of the Waldorf-Astoria next week of the eighteenth annual convention of the American Cotton Manufacturers' Association. Leading men of the cotton industry will be present from all over New England and the South. One of the principal features of the programme will be an address by A. R. Marsh, a former president of the New York Cotton Exchange, on the new rules adopted by the body. The convention banquet will be held Monday evening. At the banquet Frank A. Vanderlip and others will discuss the "Duke Warehouse Plan."

refused an offer by a syndicate of \$24,000,000 for this tract.

300,000 Acres in Oregon.

SALEM, Ore., April 13.—According to an estimate made by State Forester Elliott, the timber holdings of the late Frederick Weyerhaeuser in Oregon total about 500,000 acres. These lands are scattered through the state, but the largest holdings are in Klamath, Lake, Coos and Clackamas counties. The state forester was unable to estimate their exact value, but most of the lands are of a choice character and are worth many millions of dollars.

ALMOST BEYOND BELIEF, IS STORY OF WEYERHAUSER

LUMBER KING'S METHODS HAD MINING CAMP INFLUENCE—HIS UNOSTRUSIVE RISE

The late Frederick Weyerhaeuser, who died recently in Pasadena, with question extant as to whether his wealth was not greater than that of John D. Rockefeller, while not directly interested in mining, in the course of his career exerted large influence upon the mining industry through the changes he brought about in the timber business.

Few realize the extent to which timber enters in the mining cost sheets in a great mining district such as that buried underground, lost to private uses, are millions of dollars worth of timber in the mines of the Western District—probably enough to build a board walk around the world. Weyerhaeuser in the vast touch he exercised with the lumber of the American continent had much to do in his career with the supplies of the mining camps.

Weyerhaeuser's unobtrusive climb to the highest heights of wealth, progress of which was only discovered by the people of the nation when it was, become a matter of argument as to whether he was richer than John D. Rockefeller will lend his name, more readily to the fictitious tales of mythology than to the records of historical fact.

A description of his career must be superficial. The only man who ever knew the intimate story was not a talkative person and that man is dead.

He dominated the lumber industry of a forest and nation during the years prior to the discovery by that nation of the doctrine of conservation of national resources.

Settled in Pennsylvania He was born in a small village on the Rhine near the city of Malmedy, Germany, Nov. 21, 1834. After his father died the rest of the family lacked up and came to Northeast, Erie county, Pennsylvania, when Frederick was 18 years old.

He decided at once that he would become a brewer and went to work at 21 a month.

But he gave up the brewing idea finally, because as he expressed it, "I realized how many brewers became their own best customers."

Earning was the next attempt at a salary of \$12 a month. After four years at Northeast the family moved to Coal Valley, Rock Island county, Illinois, in 1856.

The boy had a job on the night shift as fireman in the sawmill of Meade, Smith & Marsh. In 1857 he married

Elizabeth Bloedel, who had come from his home town and settled in Erie, Pa. Mrs. Weyerhaeuser died two years ago. Seven children have all grown to maturity.

Sons His Business Lieutenants

J. P. Weyerhaeuser is the oldest. Elsie is the wife of Dr. William H. Hill of the faculty of Vassar college at Poughkeepsie. Margaret is Mrs. J. B. Jewett. Her husband is a professor of Semitic languages at the University of Chicago.

Apollonia married S. S. Davis who is head of the Weyerhaeuser Rock Island interests exclusive of lumber. The three younger sons are Charles A., Rudolph M. and Frederick E. Weyerhaeuser. All four sons have been lieutenants in their father's business.

When Weyerhaeuser, with a brother-in-law, secured control of a small saw mill at Rock Island, during the 60's the booming times of the lumber industry along the Mississippi rapidly were pushing to their high tide.

Thrift Gave His Start

Weyerhaeuser got his financial start by applying the strictest German thrift and economy to a business, which at that time was being permitted to run on a profligate scale. "Never lose a log," became Weyerhaeuser's slogan in the days when hundreds and thousands of white pine logs daily escaped from the rafts being floated from the woods to the mills. He picked profits with both hands from this source when others refused to bother with "so small a matter."

Weyerhaeuser next tackled the question of middleman. Sometimes three and even four profits were the principal cause of the great, costly confusion, regarding the ownership of logs.

Conceived Big Combination

In wiping out the middlemen Weyerhaeuser conceived the idea of the Mississippi Boom and Logging company, which was a combination of the biggest men in the lumber trade in the middle west and which was consummated at the Briggs House in Chicago, December 1879. Weyerhaeuser, as usual, was an unobtrusive attendant at this meeting, but when the meeting concluded, he was one of the three members of the executive committee, and within a few years his associates in the big concern discovered that Weyerhaeuser was the Mississippi Boom and Logging company. He became president of that organization one year after its formation and held the job for 40 years. From this point the value of the holdings began to run into the millions rapidly.

Another important landmark in his career was the year 1894, when he secured the cooperation of Edward Hines, the Chicago lumberman, who became widely known at the time of the Lorimer senatorial scandal. Weyerhaeuser, with keen discrimination and business foresight ac-

quired some of the largest and most valuable timber and mineral holdings in northwest Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota. In the last 20 years, his interests increased so rapidly that even bankers close to him in a business way, were unable to keep track of his vast holdings.

Made Wealthy Men Gasp

He entered the Pacific coast field and the southern lumber field on a scale that made wealthy men gasp. Organization of 12 and 15 million dollar concerns to handle individual timber and mineral companies, became commonplace. Only an executor's appraisal can accurately total the wealth of the modern Cossaks.

On one occasion, Weyerhaeuser purchased a tract of lumber land on the Pacific coast from James J. Hill for \$6,000,000 and within a few years



Top, Theodore Roosevelt (left) and Governor Glynn. Bottom, William H. Hearst (left) and District Attorney Whitman.

New York will be the center of political activity in all three parties from now until the 1916 presidential election. The important figures in the New York fight during the next year will probably be District Attorney Charles S. Whitman of New York city, the most likely candidate of the Republicans for the governorship; Theodore Roosevelt, who will plan the Progressive campaign; William Randolph Hearst, who will lead an important wing of the Democracy and probably run for the senatorship; and Martin H. Glynn, the Empire state's present Democratic governor, who may seek re-nomination.